

CAP and EAS

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Implementing the 3rd R&O

- What is the status of the items referred back to the bureau?
- Public comment, technical input?

History

- November 2007, Alaska state broadcasts convention, Tom Beers, Harold Price meet at a speakers dinner.
- May, 2008. A meeting with Tom Beers and staff after an EAS conference. Discussed interoperability issues, Harold pledges to start an industry group to develop a profile by the end of the year. EGIC was organized.
- September 2008, EGIC published profile recommendations.
- December, 2008, IPAWS published profile requirements, based in large part on EGIC recommendations.
- October 2009, OASIS IPAWS Profile out of committee.

History

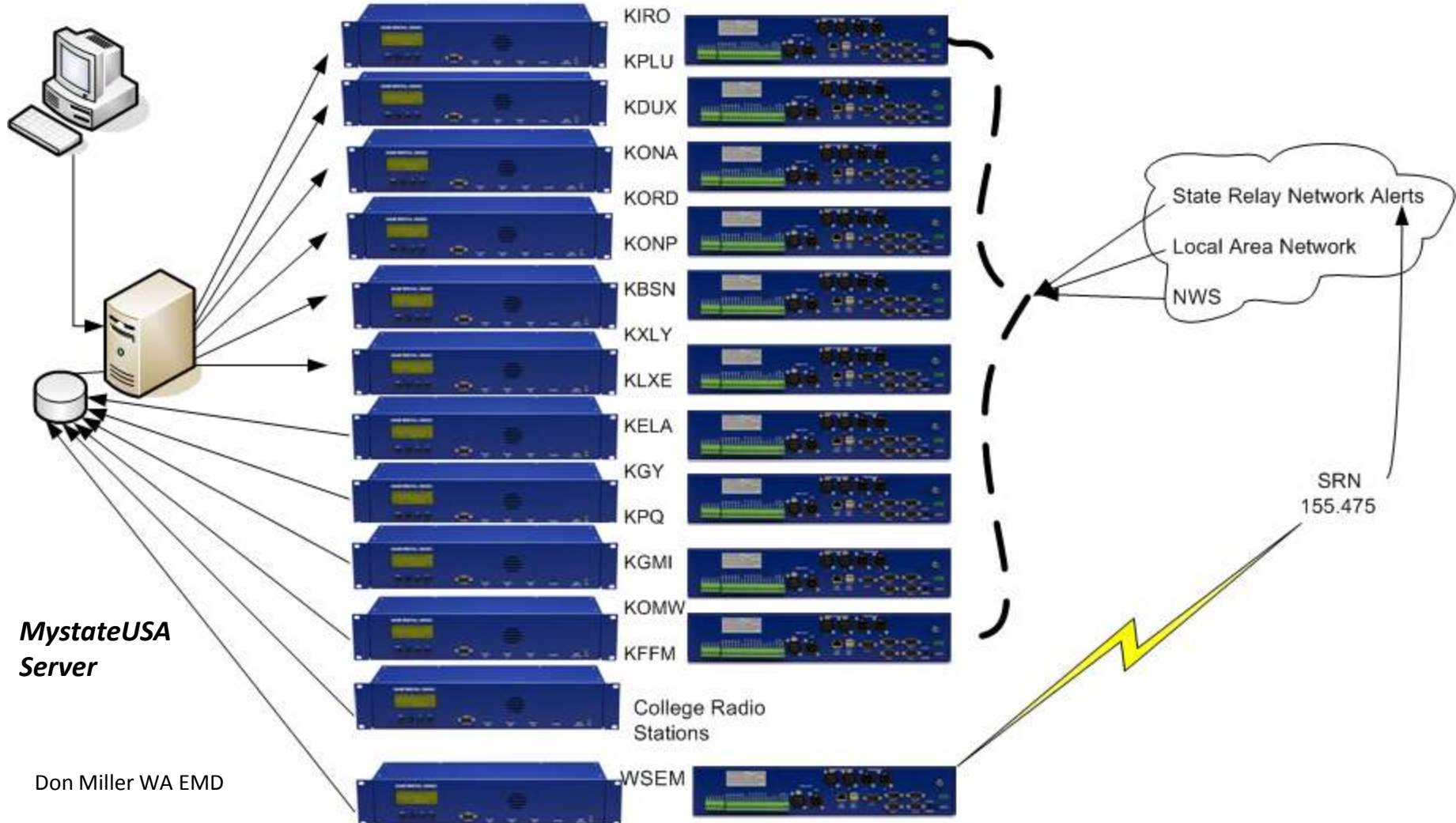
- March 2010, Sage runs ENDEC through FEMA pilot conformance test
- April 2010, ECIG publishes Implementation Guide to cover interoperability items missing in the OASIS profile.
- July 2010 – Washington State deploys ENDECs for CAP using MystateUSA server.

Migration to CAP using SRN network

LP1-2 Stations

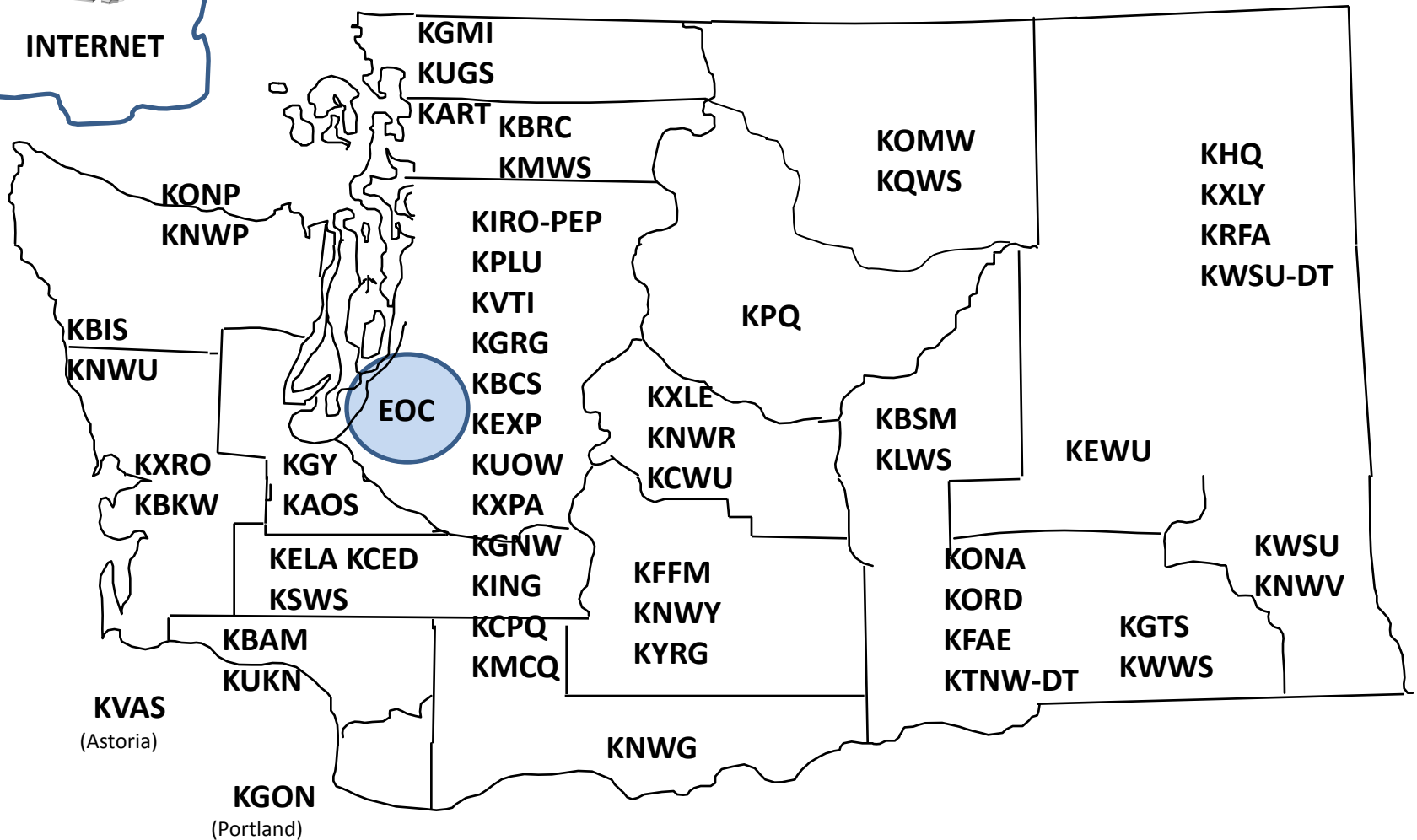
CAP based Alerts

Radio based Alerts





Current WA CAP Network



History

- August 2010, Sage runs ENDEC though live FEMA conformance test.
- September 2010, FEMA accepts CAP 1.2, IPAWS profile 1.0, and ECIG Implementation Guide (with minor change) as the FEMA/CAP defining documents.
- January 2011, FEMA announces access protocol for IPAWS 2.0
- February-March 2011, conformance tests including Implementation Guide are run.

Current Status

- After four years of false starts, the broadcast industry is now expecting a September 2011 compliance date.
- An estimated 25% of broadcasters now have CAP-ready hardware.
- Several large groups either have made, or are making their hardware decisions.
- Some states are already on the air, such as Washington State, and are now waiting for the rest of the broadcasters to catch up.

Expanding Hardware Certification

- Is it necessary?

Effects of a Further Delay

- **Loss of confidence** – this will be the third major delay, and the fifth overall based on previous FEMA dates.
- If a possibility of hardware recertification is raised, the 25% already installed base may worry about losing their investment.
- Vendors, having set up for a big push twice, will have to go back to the well with their suppliers and banks. Equipment delay times will go up, we're already seeing that price may go up (or equipment capability will go down). Vendors and distributors will be even less likely to stockpile supplies.

Are There Any Benefits to a Delay?

- More competition? Probably not, the pie is shrinking, cost of entry, and uncertainty keeps getting higher.
- Additional technical refinement? Nothing that can't be done during the normal iterative process in deployments of this type.
- Additional work by states? The near term deadline is the interest driver now. Additional delay will signal a waning interest in ever getting the system completed. State interest may go down, not up.
- Additional funding? Funding is year to year, cyclic, and uncertain if the entire system is viewed as uncertain.

Natural Progression of CAP Implementation

- The EAS system has always split into two parts, the federal requirement and the State/Local requirements.
- Federal is moving along nicely now. Based on FEMA plans and demonstrated readiness with IPAWS 2.0, IPAWS should be ready by September 2011. The Part 11 mandate will be able to be met by broadcasters, polling the IPAWS server.
- State/Local piggybacks on the published protocols and broadcaster-installed hardware. The FCC can not mandate that States use the system, only that if they do, they follow the rules, approved state plan, etc. A further delay will not help the states.

What Sage Recommends

- **Stay the course.** Refine Part 11 to include CAP.
- Clarify testing, allow for CAP text crawls
- Don't make major changes at this time, wait for the evolving use cases to settle out.
- Make use of the FEMA conformance tests.
- **Do not extend the deadline.**